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FRANK CONOVER.

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BURLEIGH'S PARDON.

When Burleigh, the Lincoln county rape fiend was paroled last week the state was disgraced; society was outraged; the knowledge and honesty of purpose of the twelve men who found him guilty was questioned, and the judge who sentenced him was rebuked. Penoyer claims to have granted the pardon upon the recommendation of Prosecuting Attorney Condon. During the four years that Mr. Condon has held the office of district attorney he has been a fearless and vigorous prosecutor. His integrity and honesty of purpose has never been questioned, and through his untiring efforts for right, has gained an enviable reputation among the moral, upright and law-abiding citizens of the second judicial district. From all these facts it was hard to believe that he had suddenly renounced his allegiance to the cause of law and order and become a friend of the criminal. Unless he has since the trial secured some new evidence that completely exonerated Burleigh from implication in the dastardly crime he would have been unwarranted in stating that in his opinion the culprit was innocent. Much unfavorable comment had been expressed regarding the supposed action of Mr. Condon until the arrival of the Sunday Oregonian which contained a communication from him denying the charge and claiming that "Burleigh was plainly guilty and to turn such a fiend loose upon the people is itself a crime."

This was refreshing news to the friends and admirers of the prosecuting attorney, but as the thinking people of this section had never accused Penoyer of having an honest impulse, the intelligence that he had willfully and maliciously lied in the matter did not have the effect of lowering him in their estimation. From the peculiar manner in which this case was brought to the attention of the authorities; the attempted escape of the old man before arrest; the testimony produced at the trial, and the further fact that the jury were out but a few minutes and upon the first ballot found the prisoner guilty, there can be no possible excuse for the action of the governor. Further than this, Judge Shattuck who presided at the trial, is said to have remarked that there was no question of the prisoner's guilt and but for his old age would have sentenced him to the full limit as provided by law. Think of it! The worst crime of which he could possibly have been charged—a beastly carnal assault upon his little ten-year-old grand daughter. After a fair and impartial trial he was found guilty and sentenced to a term of five years in the penitentiary, but after serving only one month and seventeen days he is liberated, without any apparent reason. In order to justify his action before the public, Penoyer, by a contemptible falsehood, undertakes to lay the blame upon the shoulders of the attorney who prosecuted the case.

Because of the number of criminals turned loose during the past few months the situation is becoming alarming. Judge and jury at the time of the trial are the ones to determine the guilt or innocence of persons charged with a violation of our criminal code and after trial and conviction, governor, prosecuting attorney, judge, jury, nor any one else interested in, and familiar with the circumstances, should ask for the pardon of a person so convicted unless his innocence can be clearly established. The judiciary branch of our government, so far as it affects the punishment of wrongdoers, is fast becoming a delusion and a snare through the wholesale use of the pardoning prerogative of the governor. In the past our laws have been fairly well executed and on that account a degree of respect for law and order has been maintained throughout the state of Oregon that is commendable. When criminals are vigorously prosecuted and properly punished the people do not resort to violence and lynch law. From what can be learned regarding the crime committed by Burleigh, the citizens of Lincoln county would have been justified in hanging him to the nearest tree, but they thought it better to allow the law to take its course, believing that the villain would be properly punished. Had they taken the former course the expense of the trial would have been

saved; the residence within their county of an unpunished dastard of the worst type would have been averted, and the insult to the intelligence of the jury on whose impartial judgment the prisoner was convicted, and the serious reflection cast upon the wisdom of the court would have been avoided. The demands of society for protection from these heinous offenders must be heeded, and, unless the pardoning power of the executive is greatly modified, and soon, the better class of citizens will rebel against the system, and as a result Judge Lynch will have full sway. In the case of Burleigh, the residents of the outraged community in which he lived will now be morally justified in swinging him up to a telegraph pole, should he ever dare bring his damnable old carcass within the precincts of Lincoln county again.

WASHINGTON LETTER.

WASHINGTON, July 9, 1894.

Republicans in the senate and house to a man support Mr. Cleveland in the stand he has taken against anarchy and in favor of law and order, but, to their shame be it recorded, there are quite a number of democrats in congress who stand with the protesting democratic and populist governors against the action of the administration. Among his opponents are, of course, the most extreme states rights democrats, and the populists, whose public utterances have done more to encourage the spread of anarchy in this country than all other causes combined. The question of the rightfulness or wrongfulness of the original strikers against the Pullman company became a secondary consideration with everybody the moment the free passage of the U. S. mails was obstructed and the authority of the U. S. courts defied.

The U. S. government has nothing whatever to do with the strikes against individuals or corporations, but it has everything to do with the rights of the people of the several states to communicate with and do business with each other at will, and Mr. Cleveland would have neglected his sworn duty had he done less than he has done. It isn't the rights of the strikers that are at stake, but the very life of republican institutions in America. Fortunately the number of men in congress who are opposed to the position of the administration is too small to be a factor in any congressional action that may become necessary, and as long as Mr. Cleveland stands for the preservation of law and order and for maintaining the dignity and authority of the U. S. government he can count upon the support of congress and of nine tenths of the people, regardless of their political opinions. There is no politics in the present situation; it is Americanism against anarchy.

It is clear that the democratic members of the senate committee that investigated the sugar trust scandal are in no hurry to get their report before the senate, having failed to get either Senators Lodge, Davis or Allen to agree to a meaningless support that would practically dismiss the whole matter. The republican senators propose making a report that will be in keeping with the evidence taken, and owing to the extreme nature of some of the conclusions drawn by Senator Allen he will probably make a separate report devoted largely to showing that the money which the sugar trust people admitted having contributed to democratic state committees was actually used to help the democratic national ticket and was so intended to be used. The republican report will only agree with that of the democratic senators in one thing—it will exonerate Secretary Carlisle from any blame for having at the request of Senator Jones written that sugar schedule. It will then show that the sugar trust controlled the making of the sugar schedule of the tariff bill and the passing of the bill.

The conference committee on the tariff bill held its first meeting today, in the senate finance committee room. If the apportionment of the democrats of the house gave Mr. Wilson, chairman of the ways and means committee, when he attacked the 64 senate amendments to the tariff bill meant anything it meant that the house is going to knock out every one of those amendments which raises the duty or which puts a duty on articles which were put on the free list by the original Wilson bill. Upon the result of that fight depends the fate of the tariff bill. If it is successful it is believed that the bill is doomed, unless the Gorman-Brice combine shall abjectly surrender, as every member of it has openly stated that they would not vote for the bill without the amendments they demanded and obtained from the senate. It must not be forgotten that a loss of three votes in the

senate means the final defeat of the bill. The republicans are not, of course, expecting anything quite so good as that, but they will not be surprised if it happens, and you may be sure that they will do nothing to make the fight between the house and the senate less bitter.

OREGON and California are contiguous states. The Southern Pacific railroad bisects both of these from north to south, and is the main artery of traffic through each state. In California we have seen since the late strike, a complete stagnation of trade and utter paralysis of trade, with violence, bloodshed and murder—in Oregon the matter has blown over so quietly as to scarcely ruffle the surface of our everyday work and business. Why the difference? Not, surely, because the S. P. company is any better liked here than there. California hates that corporation—but so does Oregon; for the iron hand of an unjust tyranny has never pressed upon the neck of our southern neighbor more severely than upon our own. The average resident of the Willamette valley has no love for the company that carries his freight, and sucks all possible profit therefrom with the greedy lips of a voracious tariff. How comes it then that the S. P. company in Oregon has had such comparatively plain sailing during the recent trouble? We think it is largely owing to the common sense stand that has been taken throughout this matter by the Oregonian. Its articles have been strong but just, forceful but not bitter, and there is every justification for the note of self-complacency it sounded on receipt of the eastern exchanges when it was found that the line of argument adopted by the leading press of the country was parallel to that of the Morning Oregonian. What is needed in California to day more than all else, is men of sense and moral courage; men that are not afraid to express their sentiments in favor of law and order, and against riot, bloodshed and crime. In its tirades against the Southern Pacific, the press of that state has lost sight of the main issue, and its countenance of the strikers and the lawless methods pursued by them, is largely responsible for the scenes of violence enacted during the past two weeks within her borders. Had the leading papers of the state displayed the same forceful and fearless attitude that the Oregonian has maintained, it could not be said that nine tenths of her population sympathized with the strikers and favored misrule and anarchy.

SENATOR HOAR has plainly and tersely described what the effect of the proposed tariff will be upon the country as follows: "In the cost in money, the destruction of property, the ruin of trade, the misery, the starvation of men unaccustomed to work for the comforts of life, this bill is two-fold worse than four years of war."

PUTTING up electric fans may cool the members of the house while they remain in session, but fans will not be needed to cool some of them when they get back to their constituents; their reception will be cool enough.

A CABLEGRAM from Paris says that the De Lesseps family are getting out of their "sea of troubles." It has been generally supposed that their troubles were mostly of the canal variety.

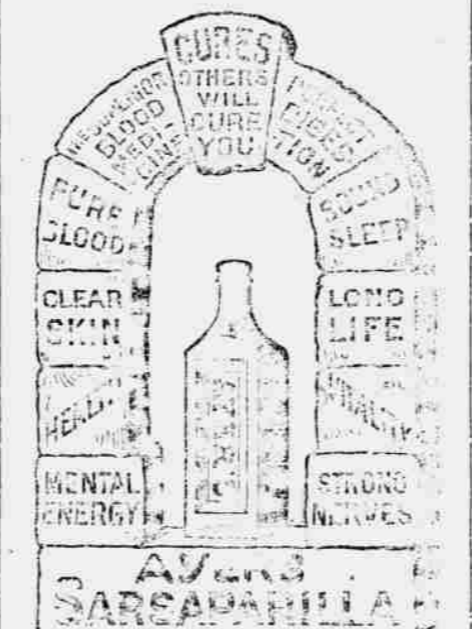
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RETRENCHMENT and reform during these times of everlasting depression is, from sheer necessity, the order in all lines of business. Such action is commendable and is especially appreciated when its good effects are felt by the taxpayer. There is, however, a tendency to overdo the matter, and from the tread of public opinion our city council went too far at their last meeting in the reduction of official salaries. All admit that the salaries of the police judge and city treasurer have been altogether too high for the services performed since the passage of the law that provided for the assessment of the city by the county assessor and the collection of city taxes by the sheriff, which duties prior to last year, were performed by the city officials, and the decrease so far as it affects them, meets with hearty approval. But on the other hand the duties of the police force remain unchanged except as they increase with the increase in population, and the reduction made in the salary of the chief of police from \$60 to \$45, and the cut of twenty five cents per night on the pay of the night watchman is not in proportion with the reductions made in the remuneration of other officials whose duties had been materially lessened. Nothing is of more importance to a city than adequate police protection, and to secure this, salaries should be commensurate with the duties performed. Yet they should be reduced to a minimum, but \$45 per month, which after paying the discount on the warrant leaves but \$40.50, is insufficient remuneration for a chief of police, who attends to his duty faithfully in a city of 2500 inhabitants with \$2,000,000 of property to protect. Many persons seem imbued with the idea that the arduous duties of the chief are to sit around, loaf and draw his salary. This is far from the correct idea. There is at all times of the year plenty of work for him to do, and when he is found loafing around the saloons, apparently out of employment, he is not performing the duties required of him, and should be promptly discharged.



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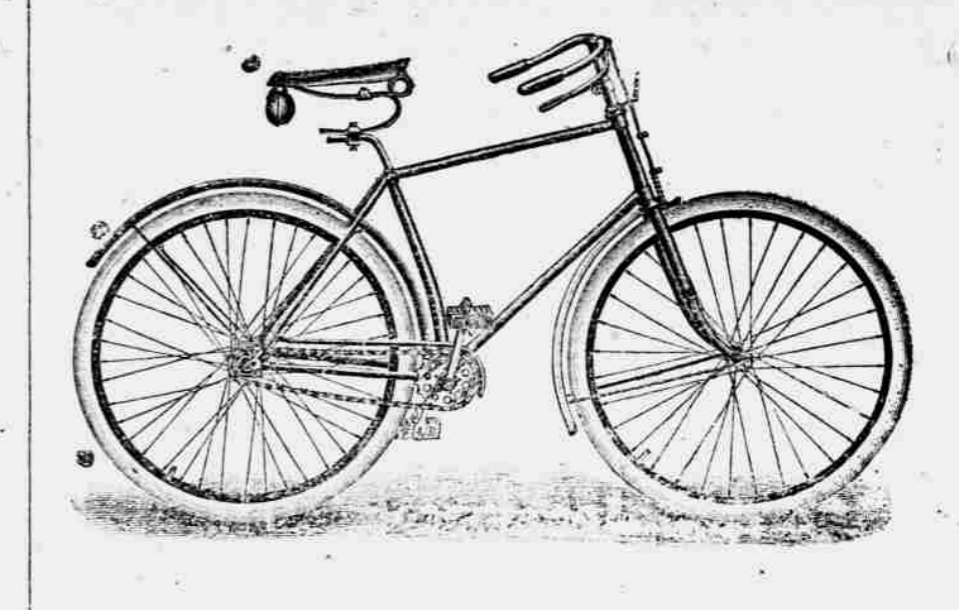
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